



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shine a light... Be a light **Domestic Violence Awareness Project in West Valley City**

West Valley City – Beginning Monday October 7, 2013, as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, more than 40 men, women, children and infants, all victims of domestic violence since 1980, will be represented in a Silent Witness display at West Valley City Hall. The Silent Witnesses will be displayed through October 17, and are part of the city's "Shine a light... Be a Light" project, shining light on domestic violence and encouraging the community to be a light for victims and survivors.

In addition to the Silent Witness display, West Valley City's Victim Services Office will host a walk for awareness on October 8. The walk will begin at Valley Fair Mall on the central outdoor plaza (3601 South 2700 West) at 5:30 p.m. and will proceed across 2700 West to West Valley City Hall (3600 South 2700 West). A brief program will follow at 6:00 p.m. featuring Police Chief Lee Russo.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state, and national levels.

VISUALS: Community members will walk from Valley Fair Mall to West Valley City Hall, carrying purple ribbons, photos of loved ones, candles and signs; more than 40 life-sized silhouettes will fill the West Valley City Hall lobby representing local victims of domestic violence.

For more information about West Valley City Victim Services and Domestic Violence Awareness Month, call 801-963-3223.

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